Liberalisation of LNG Policy

1342. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to liberalise the national NG policy including pricing and imports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the demand of LNG in various fields such as power and fertilizer have increased during the past few years; and

(d) if so, to what extent liberalisation of national LNG policy is going to help fertilizer and power sectors in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The import of Liquified Natural Gas (LNG) has been placed under Open General Licence (OGL) with permission for 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). The companies are free to import and market LNG at market determined prices.

(c) As against the current allocation of 120 million Metric Standard Cubic Meters per Day (MMSCMD) of natural gas, the current supply is about 65 MMSCMD. As per the Hydrocarbon Vision 2025 the demand of natural gas would go upto 231 MMSCMD in 2006-07, including in power and fertilizer sectors. To bridge the large gap between demand and supply of natural gas, one of the options is to import LNG.

(d) Liberalisation of LNG would attract more investment in LNG projects reducing the large gap in demand and supply of gas for various sectors including fertilizer and power sectors.

Exploration of petroleum products in Rajasthan

†1343. DR. PRABHA THAKUR:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:
DR. A.K. PATEL:
SHRI LALIT SURI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large quantity of petroleum products

†Original notice ot the question was received in Hindi.